

U.S. TO OPERATE RAILROADS AS A WAR MEASURE

PLANS FOR TAKING OVER CARRIERS CONSIDERED HERE TODAY.

OFFICIALS ARE ENGAGED IN WORKING OUT DETAILS

Efforts Being Made to Curtail Passenger Traffic and Shipments of Luxuries.

Government operation of railways if the pooling plan does not afford relief from the present situation was being considered here today as the committee of vice presidents of eastern lines gathered to perfect general plans to put the pooling arrangements into effect.

Congressional action would be necessary if government operation were to be decided upon but that has been discussed by officials who have been considering what steps would be necessary if the pooling plans should not relieve the congestion.

The operating committee of vice presidents, which will act under the general direction of the railroad war board, met today with the board to work out details of the plan of pooling trackage and equipment of the eastern lines. They expected to announce a general plan of operation later.

Elisha Lee, general manager of the Pennsylvania lines east, and W. Thompson, vice president in charge of traffic of the Baltimore and Ohio, were being considered to head the operating committee of vice presidents. It was said that one of the other probably would be chosen.

Adopted as the most practicable suggestion advanced in the pooling plan will be operated entirely by the railroads themselves, without government participation. If it is not possible to carry out this plan, it will be necessary to resort to government operation.

To Cut Unnecessary Travel.

Among the steps to be taken which will be of greatest interest to the general public are those relative to curtailment of unnecessary passenger travel, especially that of tourists; to the ultimate reduction of the carrying capacity of the railroads; and to the carrying of goods in the class of which sporting goods was mentioned as an example.

But the public called upon for sacrifices by this necessary war-time measure, will be asked to make sacrifices in the handling of necessary freight. The committee will consider the possibility of curtailing the carrying of goods in the class of which sporting goods was mentioned as an example.

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Though men in close touch with the railroads, it is believed that they should not be alarmed unnecessarily by the probability of further curtailment of passenger travel. The committee will consider the possibility of curtailing the carrying of goods in the class of which sporting goods was mentioned as an example.

Some Trains Taken Off.

Efforts to curtail further passenger service, when possible, already are in progress, and only yesterday the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania lines announced that they would discontinue some trains between Washington and Philadelphia. Railroad men say that they are making every effort to maintain better schedules for passenger trains, realizing that many delays have been caused by the curtailment of freight trains.

It is further to be noted that the schedules already are running down. The Pennsylvania line, for example, has been running trains from New Haven and Hartford, and on many of the trains making long trips from eastern cities to western points.

In line with the effort to curtail the number of conventions, railroads this fall sought to reduce the number of excursions to state and county fairs, and so far as possible all such traffic was carried on regular trains. It was pointed out that the reduction in the number of conventions, railroads this fall sought to reduce the number of excursions to state and county fairs, and so far as possible all such traffic was carried on regular trains.

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TWENTY CARLOADS OF SUGAR ARRIVE

District Also to Be Supplied From Two Other Sources.

It Is Announced.

TO CONTROL DISTRIBUTION

Arrival in Washington today of twenty carloads of sugar from the Mississippi valley put at rest the fears of District citizens that the capital will run bare of sugar supplies.

These stocks will not be available for distribution for several days, as the District food administration will be consulted as to its distribution and new rules governing its sale.

Paul J. Christian, local representative of the American Cane Growers' Association, said today that the movement of 400 cars to eastern cities on seaboard railroad lines. Most of this sugar is from the Mississippi valley, he declared.

Sugar From Other Sources.

Two other sources furnished Washington with optimism concerning the sugar outlook today. One was the report to the food administration that a part of the bulk sugar intended for the Russian government, which was seized in New York, had been shipped to the District.

Another source of sugar supply was disclosed today in the consignment to Washington of several thousand pounds of Peruvian sugar, which has been on its way here for some time.

Delays in sugar movements by the railroads was said by Mr. Christian to be largely responsible for the shortage in Washington. Sugar which he ordered last week from New Orleans for the local Chamber of Commerce to help relieve the situation here had not arrived today on account of first being sent to Cincinnati instead of direct to Washington.

To Supervise Distribution.

Clarence R. Wilson, food administrator of the District, today is making a tabulation of sugar stocks in the capital. As soon as arrangements are made for unloading the supply which has been on its way here, he will supervise its distribution.

That stringent regulations will be enforced to prevent a run on the sugar market by distracted purchasers was indicated by the food administrator.

Dealers who are restricted to sugar sales as formerly until it becomes evident sufficient supplies are on hand to supply the demand, will be permitted to sell sugar to their customers.

The consensus of opinion among sugar dealers here today was that the panic of Washington is now groundless and that the situation is being brought to meet every necessary requirement.

HOOVER PLAN IS APPROVED.

Controller of Treasury Holds He Can Commandeer Certain Sugar.

Food Administrator Hoover's plan to commandeer a large quantity of sugar held in the District for foreign export and pay for it with government bonds was approved by the controller of the Treasury today.

The controller held that if the transaction is in the name of the food administrator, the sugar may be used and an accounting rendered to the Treasury. If the purchase is made, however, by the food administrator's orders, the government is not bound to the government is necessary.

MEANS TRIAL ADJOURNS

VENUE OF 150 MEN SUMMONED—Defendant Accused of Murdering Mrs. M. A. King.

By the Associated Press.

CONCORD, N. C., November 26.—Adjournment of the case against Gaston B. Means, charged with the murder of Mrs. Maudie A. King, was taken at noon today until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow to allow a special venire of 150 men to be summoned.

No attempt was made to examine the thirty-six veniremen called for the special term. Means pleaded not guilty when arraigned, after his indictment a month ago, and other than a formal announcement of ready by both sides, no action was taken today.

By agreement of both sides the special venire of 150 was drawn. Selection of a grand jury, consisting of fifteen men, was taken at the thirty-sixth adjournment for the special term. The names of the veniremen were drawn in court. Among them was W. H. Rinkham, son of Capt. W. S. Bingham, who was nearby when Mrs. King was killed.

Big Array of Counsel.

The trial began today in Cabarrus county court. An array of counsel representing Means and attorneys from New York and Chicago identified with the prosecution were ready for the examination of witnesses, as the first work of drawing a jury.

After court opened much time was taken up with the formality of drawing and charging the grand jury, called at the same time the thirty-sixth adjournment. Judge E. B. Cline, presiding, told the grand jury that probably no bills would be presented to it.

PROBUDLY AVERTS FUEL FAMINE HERE

Federal Government Diverts 2,000 Tons of Coal to Public Use.

OTHER SHIPMENTS COMING

The fuel famine which Washington faced has been averted.

Drastic steps by the federal government, which intervened to save the capital from suffering on account of a coal shortage, today placed within reach of consumers here sufficient coal to relieve the situation.

Two thousand tons of anthracite coal were requisitioned from government stocks for distribution to householders here, John A. Weaver, federal fuel administrator for the District, announced.

In addition 150 carloads of coal, the first of lot shipments to reach the capital in weeks, arrived last night, and the fuel administration declared today that there is enough coal for everybody's needs.

The government supply will be replenished partly from the consignment which arrived yesterday and from supplies which will be shipped to Washington on regular schedule hereafter.

No Further Interruptions.

There will be no further interruptions in coal shipments for Washington, the fuel administration positively asserted.

Prices for the coal to the consumer probably will be fixed late today at a conference of the advisory committee co-operating with Administrator Weaver. This step will be taken to insure fair prices and to stop the practice of hoarding coal by speculators and retail dealers, under the executive order fixing the price of coal.

These developments stood out today as the most significant plans today taken by the national and the District fuel administrations to avert a coal famine in Washington.

Expert Not Named Today.

The national fuel administration did not announce the appointment today of a coal expert, who will do nothing but keep coal coming over the railroads to Washington, but the appointment probably will be made tomorrow, it was said.

Two men are under consideration for this post. The duties of this new officer of the fuel administration will be to coordinate the movements of all coal shipped to Washington today, it was said.

To keep such shipments constantly on the move.

To issue priority orders, whenever necessary, to insure an adequate reserve supply of fuel for the District.

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RAILWAY PROBLEMS

CRATED AS UNUSUAL

Representative Sims Thinks Permanent Legislation on Subject Inadvisable.

NO NEED OF POOLING LAW

Representative Thetus W. Sims of Tennessee, a member of the joint committee of the House and Senate which during the recess has been investigating transportation and freight rate problems of the railroads in the far west, has returned to the city. Mr. Sims' interest in railway problems is accentuated by the fact that in case Judge Adamson concludes to resign from Congress and qualify for the judgeship to which he has been appointed and confirmed Mr. Sims will be the logical selection for chairman of the House committee on interstate and foreign commerce.

Speaking for himself, and disclaiming that he voices the opinions of any of his colleagues on the committee, Mr. Sims today expressed doubt whether it will be advisable at the present time to attempt to pass any permanent railway legislation of vital importance. It is quite obvious, he said, that the war has created problems for the railroads which are abnormal, which will disappear after the war. He feels that it would be very difficult to change the existing laws with a view to permanent retention upon the statute books, to meet these abnormal conditions.

Suggests Guaranteeing Loans.

"There is one thing that can be done and which I think may be accomplished at this session," said Mr. Sims, "and that is to pass legislation by which the government would guarantee loans to the railroads at a low rate of interest to enable them to make improvements imperatively needed at the moment and to expand their facilities to meet the unusual demands upon them."

"For that very reason I would not favor broad expansion of railroad capital through government aid or any other character of loans. But it is obvious to every man that the railroads need money for new trackage, for new cars, for new facilities, for new equipment, and other equipment."

"The federal food administration will tomorrow name a man whose sole duty will be to see that the railroads are kept on schedule time. When the cars are on the tracks here it will be the duty of the local food administrator to supervise its distribution and sale."

"A committee today will name prices which will govern the sale of coal to retailers."

Promises Coal During Winter.

Administrator Weaver added: "Plans have been made whereby no shortage of fuel will occur here again this winter, and the government will develop coal. The federal administration has agreed to keep coal moving to Washington at all costs, and this office will see that it promptly unloaded and distributed after its arrival. These two agencies, co-operating in every detail are pledged to keep the National Capital from a fuel famine. The District will be treated as a government reservation, so far as the coal supply is concerned. If supplies have to be commandeered from other cities this step will be taken."

Thinks Plan Would Be Popular.

"The railroads would doubtless be eager to avail themselves of the privilege, and the securities, issued under supervision of the Interstate Commerce Commission, with knowledge of the general condition of the roads, should appeal to the financial world as a good investment. As I understand it, no railroad would of itself want to borrow money for any other purpose than putting it immediately into the plant to enlarge its carrying facilities."

"A very much more serious attempt will be made at the coming session in behalf of a general pooling bill. This subject is quite familiar to men who have been in Congress longer than one term. In the last place, and in point of fact, the railroads are even now, to all practical intents and purposes, beginning to pool their carrying facilities."

The action announced in yesterday's papers by the railroads' way board, the pooling of freight facilities on the eastern roads is proof.

Pooling Authority Not Necessary.

"So, for immediate practical purposes it seems that they do not need legislative sanction for pooling. As for any permanent pooling authority, I very gravely doubt whether it would be possible to get through Congress legislation which seemed to look to nullification of the anti-trust laws, even under governmental regulation."

"The freight rate increase problem is very serious. It has many aspects. To my mind, the main thought to be kept before us is not to increase freight rates to such an extent that they would prove a depressant to business."

SAYS D. C. SHOULD BE THE STATE OF COLUMBIA

Has Outgrown Its Present Form of Government, Declares Senator Lewis.

"The District of Columbia should be made the state of Columbia," said Senator Lewis of Illinois today, expressing his approval of the campaign to amend the Constitution so that the people may elect representatives in Congress and vote for presidential and vice presidential electors.

"The District has outgrown its present form of government. There are as many people here as there are in number of the states and they should not be disfranchised."

Under an agreement reached today between the government and six of seven paper manufacturers charged with violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

United States Judge Mayer signed a decree today which dissolved the Federal Trade Commission, made for the Manufacturers' Association. News Print Manufacturers' Association. News Print Manufacturers' Association. News Print Manufacturers' Association.

CONGRESSMEN ARRIVE AT AN ATLANTIC PORT

Party Which Visited Trenches on the British Front Reaches This Country.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, November 26.—The party of American congressmen, members of which had narrow escapes from death or injury when they came under German machine gun fire recently while visiting the trenches on the British front in France, returned home on an American steamship which arrived here today.

The Germans, it appears, noticed the unusual activity in the British trenches caused by the visit of the congressmen, and thinking a raid was about to begin, opened fire with a battery of machine guns. Some of the congressmen, who were exposed to the rain of bullets, promptly sought the shelter of the trenches. The party which arrived today included Representatives Clarence C. Dill, John F. Miller and Albert Johnson of Washington; Charles B. Timmerlake and Edward D. Taylor of Colorado; Dan V. Stephens of Nebraska; William S. Goodwin of Arkansas and former Representative Stout of Montana; and Frederick C. Hinks of New York.

ENTHUSIASM GREETED ROOSEVELT IN TORONTO

TORONTO, Ontario, November 26.—Tremendous enthusiasm greeted Col. Theodore Roosevelt on his arrival here shortly after noon today to assist in the great "victory loan" meeting tonight. Sir Robert Borden, Canadian premier, who was leaving for a political meeting at Windsor, had his train held so that he might shake hands with the former President of the United States. Among others who welcomed the colonel were Sir William Hendrie, lieutenant governor of Ontario; Sir William Hearst, provincial premier; Mayor Church and army officers.

The colonel on leaving his car was greeted with three rousing cheers. When he reached the street thronged with people he was given an ovation. The military headquarters band played "The Star Spangled Banner," and the guard of honor from the Canadian army's training corps presented arms. Cheers and crowds lined the streets all along the route to Government House, where the colonel and his party proceeded in automobiles under the escort of the mounted police and the Royal Flying Corps mounted on motor cycles. A luncheon followed at the York Club.

Part of Equity Action.

The agreement was part of the equity action. When the criminal cases were called, Mead, Dodge, Backus, Chahoon and Senzenbrenner pleaded guilty to conspiracy on the ground of not desiring for patriotic Red Cross work, and the jury will not be discharged until the criminal cases are entered.

Could be reached by his attorney. The government stated that, as its investigators had not been able to produce evidence that would convict in this case, it consented to the dismissal of the indictment.

Agreement Reached Here.

The news print agreement announced in New York was reached here last week. It is similar in many respects to one negotiated earlier, under which paper was to be sold at 2 1/2 cents.

The manufacturers, however, withdrew from the first agreement, when the Department of Justice refused to become a party to it and insisted on prosecutions. The trade commission argued unsuccessfully that as the chief aim sought was to reduce the price of paper, prosecutions were not wise.

According to reports current here only one paper manufacturer among those indicated has declined to enter the agreement. At the Department of Justice it was said last week that if he continued to hold out the department would go the limit to obtain his conviction.

PRICE OF NEWS PRINT PAPER AGREED UPON

Six Out of Seven Defendants Will Sell for Three Cents Per Pound for Present.

MAY COLLECT EVIDENCE

NEW YORK, November 26.—News print paper manufacturers representing 85 per cent of the print paper output in the country will sell news print to publishers at 3 cents a pound until April 1, and after that at a price to be fixed by the Federal Trade Commission, under an agreement reached today between the government and six of seven paper manufacturers charged with violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

United States Judge Mayer signed a decree today which dissolved the Federal Trade Commission, made for the Manufacturers' Association. News Print Manufacturers' Association. News Print Manufacturers' Association.

The decree was affirmatively presented by the government and was consented to by all seven defendants. It was stated in court that the present agreement was a concession to the government, but they insisted that there be no violation of the Sherman law by the defendants of either the spirit or the letter of the Sherman law.

Contract Is Permissible.

It was also stipulated in the decree that nothing therein would prevent the defendants "from entering into and performing a certain contract of even date with the Attorney General of the United States as trustee, made for the purpose of meeting the existing conditions of the present state of the war in the United States, and the agreement for fixing the price of print paper by the Federal Trade Commission."

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Did Not Agree on Price.

Edward W. Backus, president of the Minnesota and Ontario Power Company and the Fort Francis Pulp and Paper Company, did not agree to the three-cent price up to April 1, but asked that the Federal Trade Commission fix the price after January 1.

The agreement is said to be satisfactory to the American Newspaper Publishers' Association. It was the executive committee of the News Print Manufacturers' Association; Philip T. Dodge, president of the International Association of News Print Manufacturers; George Chahoon, Jr., and G. E. Backus, comprising the executive committee of the News Print Manufacturers' Association.

The defendants were returned by the federal grand jury April 12 last, and the defendants were cited to appear for trial today.

Would Take Away Privileges.

"In the case of the American citizenships who are born here and in whom citizenship is inherent, and who refuse to support their government, I have should be passed which would take away from them their suffrage, the right to hold office, and other similar privileges which they now have."

"Any persons who destroy food intended for the Army, place bombs, commit sabotage or destroy bridges, should not be given the benefits of civil protection, with the endless appeals and delays attendant thereon. They should be handed over to military courts-martial. After a few of them had been handed over, we would have to have so much trouble with these outrages as we now have."

INQUIRY OF LA FOLLETTE'S SPEECH IS POSTPONED

Absence of senators on the subcommittee appointed to investigate Senator La Follette's St. Paul speech last September caused a postponement today of the inquiry, probably until after Congress reconvenes.

To Accept Strike Settlement Terms.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 26.—Pacific coast locals of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have agreed to accept the settlement terms proposed by the President's mediation board in settling their differences with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. L. C. Gresser, vice-president of the brotherhood, said here today.

URGES WAR ON ALL CENTRAL POWERS

U. S. Should Fight Allies of Germany, Senator Stone Says.

SITUATION IS ANOMALOUS

That a declaration of war by the United States against Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria seems "exceedingly advisable to simplify a situation now anomalous," was the opinion expressed today by Senator Stone of Missouri, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, who has returned to Washington for the approaching session of Congress.

He said he thought Congress should pass war declarations similar to that in the case of Germany against Germany's allies, provided such action should coincide with the policy of the executive branch.

Two Branches Should Agree.

"There should be an understanding, of course, between the two branches of the government before any action is taken," said Senator Stone. "But we are, in fact, now at war with Germany's allies. The situation is anomalous. It would be simplifying matters greatly if we should informally declare war against Germany's allies, provided such action should coincide with the policy of the executive branch."

Austrians Now on Western Front.

"I have understood that some, if not a large number, of Austrian troops have been on the western front. They may now, or soon, be actually fighting against the American forces, the two forces first met at Verdun. Any way the Austrians are desperately engaged with Italy, which is one of our allies just as the French or England."

Senator Stone said that to have war formally declared against the German allies also would simplify matters of domestic concern such as measures to prevent espionage.

May Improve New War Tax.

New or amended war-tax legislation, according to Senator Stone, who also is ranking member of the Senate finance committee, should not be undertaken until after a thorough survey of the situation between Secretary McAdoo and legislative leaders. He said there is no doubt that in many respects the new war tax law is improved, and probably will be to remove inequalities and injustices. Revenue legislation, he believed, will not be initiated, however, early in the session, which he predicted would be a long one.

Senator Lewis Outlines Questions Before Congress

The three paramount questions which will confront Congress at its opening next week, in the opinion of Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, democratic whip of the Senate, are:

1. The attitude which the United States shall assume toward Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria, Germany's allies.

2. Enactment of a law which will make it possible to take away from naturalized citizens of the United States their citizenship if they do not support the government.

3. Enactment of a law taking from the civil courts and placing in the hands of the military authorities all cases of espionage, sabotage, and other offenses against the government, and placing in the hands of the Army and Navy, blow up bridges, place bombs for the purpose of destroying life or property, or committing sabotage.

Senator Lewis gave it as his opinion that the United States must deal with these three questions in making common cause with the enemy and in effect fighting the forces of the United States today.

Favors Distinction in Austria.

"At the same time," said Senator Lewis, "in declaring war upon Austria, we should make a distinction in the treatment of the Austrians and the Hungarians and the Bohemians. The Austrians have been a long time anxious, to establish democratic forms of government. Also we must distinguish between the Austrians and the Poles. I do not think that we can in any way be considered as favoring any plan which Italy may have for taking territory from Austria."

"The President and the Congress have been anxious to make a distinction in this war for any territory, aggrandizement or to aid any other nation take territory."

"It is high time," Senator Lewis added, "that some steps be taken whereby it will be possible for the United States to take away from naturalized citizens the rights and privileges of United States citizenship and the protection it gives from those who are not loyal to the government."

FRANCO-BRITISH AID REACHES ITALY

Solid Ranks of Infantry, Supply Trains and Artillery Arrive at Northern Front.

LATINS REPULSE ATTACKS; NEW FORCES CHEER MEN

Germans Beaten in Dozen Raids as Gen. De Giorgio's Army Battles to Keep Line.

By the Associated Press.

ROME, November 26.—Strong Austro-German attacks on the northern mountain front between the Brenna and Piave rivers were repulsed yesterday, it is announced officially.

ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN NORTHERN ITALY, November 25.

—Solid ranks of Franco-British infantry, with artillery and supply trains, were seen by the correspondent today within sound of the battle on the Italian northern line. They had been on an eight-day march.

The correspondent was on a tour of the northern fighting front, where the great battle is continuing with unabated violence. Maj. Gen. De Giorgio was found commanding the extreme left of the fourth army at the point where the fighting was heaviest.